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The Honorable Armi Jane Borje
Commissioner, National Telecommunications Commission
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Date 6 February 2003

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Dear Commissioner Boqe

I would be very grateful for your attention to a maner which is giving some serious cause for concern amongst British international telecommunications camers. These camers have informed us that proposals recently put forward by operators in the Philippines, including PLDT, will lead to an immediate increase of 40% in the level of termination charges for international calls. They have also apparently been told that failure to agree to these increases would lead to disconnection of their services to the Philippines. **As I** am sure you would readily appreciate, this would have severe consequences for the continued provision of services on some key international routes, including the UK-Philippines.

We understand that on 31 January your Commission made a very helpful intervention by issuing an order which prohibits any actions by Philippine operators leading to the cessation of service by the overseas operators. We very much support this policy. However, it has come to our attention that PLTD has ceased to accept traffic from at least one UK carrier, and is threatening the same action against another.

I am sure that you would agree that disruptions to the communications networks between our two countries would be very much against the interests of consumers and businesses in our two countries. We hope very much therefore that you will be able to ensure that UK and Philippine operators remain free to negotiate the agreements governing the temination of international traffic in the Philippines according to the usual commercial criteria.

Yours sincerely

David Love

David Love

Director, International Communications Policy

dti

Department of Trade and Industry

ORIGINAL

From: Mesen, Michelle
To: Lisa Choi
Date: Wed, Feb 19, 2003 2:53 PM
Subject: RE: Philippines Situation

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Hi Lisa,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] working on getting up to speed on the Philippines situation and wanted to share the attached letter from the DTI with you. I apologize if you've already gotten a copy, but figured I'd send it along in case you hadn't.

Hope you're well!
Michelle

RECEIVED

MAR 18 2003

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Office of the Secretary

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